

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 H-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00

SS-20 SPC-03 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 /107 R

DRAFTED BY EB/AN:PJGLASOE:DAP

APPROVED BY EB/AN:MHSTYLES

CAB - MR. MURPHY (SUBS)

EUR/IB - MR. MC COWN

----- 073034

R 082316Z NOV 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ETRN, SP

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - SPANTAX CHARTERS

REF: STATE 219690

1. IN SEPTEMBER, SPANTAX PETITIONED THE CAB FOR A WAIVER OF ONE ASPECT OF THE BOARD'S AIR FARE REQUIREMENTS IN RELATION TO TWO NINE-DAY ITC CHARTER FLIGHTS TO SPAIN DURING THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 8-24. WITHOUT GOING INTO THE TECHNICAL DETAILS OF THE CASE, SUFFICE IT TO SAY THAT THE CAB HAD GOOD GROUNDS FOR NOT RPT NOT GRANTING SPANTAX REQUEST SINCE THE FLIGHTS WERE CLEARLY NOT IN COMPLETE CONFORMANCE WITH ROUTINE REGULATIONS.

2. HOWEVER, THE CAB DID GRANT THE REQUESTED WAIVER. AS IT STATED IN ITS NOVEMBER 6 LETTER TO SPANTAX ATTORNEY, THE BOARD RECOGNIZED THAT THE US AND SPAIN HAVE PENDING CHARTER MATTERS TO DISCUSS WITH THE GOAL OF REACHING MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE ARRANGEMENTS CONCERNING CHARTER OPERATIONS. THE BOARD ALSO NOTED THAT IT HAD RECEIVED A LETTER

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FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE REQUESTING FAVORABLE ACTION

ON THE SPANTAX PETITION IN VIEW OF THE PRESENT DELICATE STATE OF OUR CHARTER RELATIONS WITH SPAIN. BASED ON "THESE SPECIAL AND UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES," AS THE BOARD PUT IT, GRANTING THE SPANTAX REQUEST WOULD BE IN THE PUBLIC INTERES.

3. ON APPROPRIATE OCCASION EMBASSY SHOULD MAKE REFERENCE TO THIS CASE WITH GOS OFFICIALS, NOTING THAT WHILE IT IS NOT INTENDED TO ESTABLISH ANY PRECEDENTS AND WAS CLEARLY AN EXCEPTIONAL MOVE BY THE CAB, IT EVIDENCES THE USG INTEREST IN NOT EXACERBATING A DELICATE SITUATION AND IN DOING WHAT IT CAN TO MAINTAIN THE BEST POSSIBLE CLIMATE IN WHICH TO RESOLVE THE OVERALL CHARTER ISSUE. WE ASSUME SPANISH WILL TAKE A SIMILARLY POSITIVE APPROACH TO THE SUBJECT, ANTICIPATING THE EVENTUAL RESOLUTION OF THE CHARTER MATTER THROUGH BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS. RUSH

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Disposition Authority: garlanwa
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